Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current
scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

TWS-102

FEBRUARY 1973

1.9
Ec752Ww

WOOL Situation

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY
RECEIVED
APR 17 1973
PROCUREMENT SECTION
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

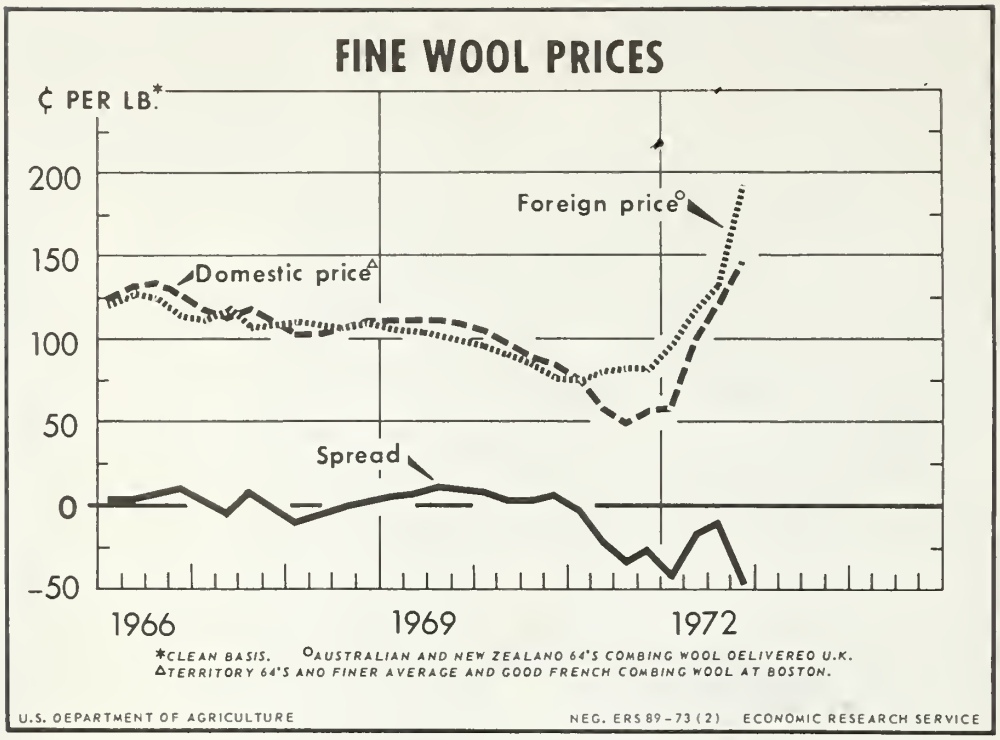

Figure 1

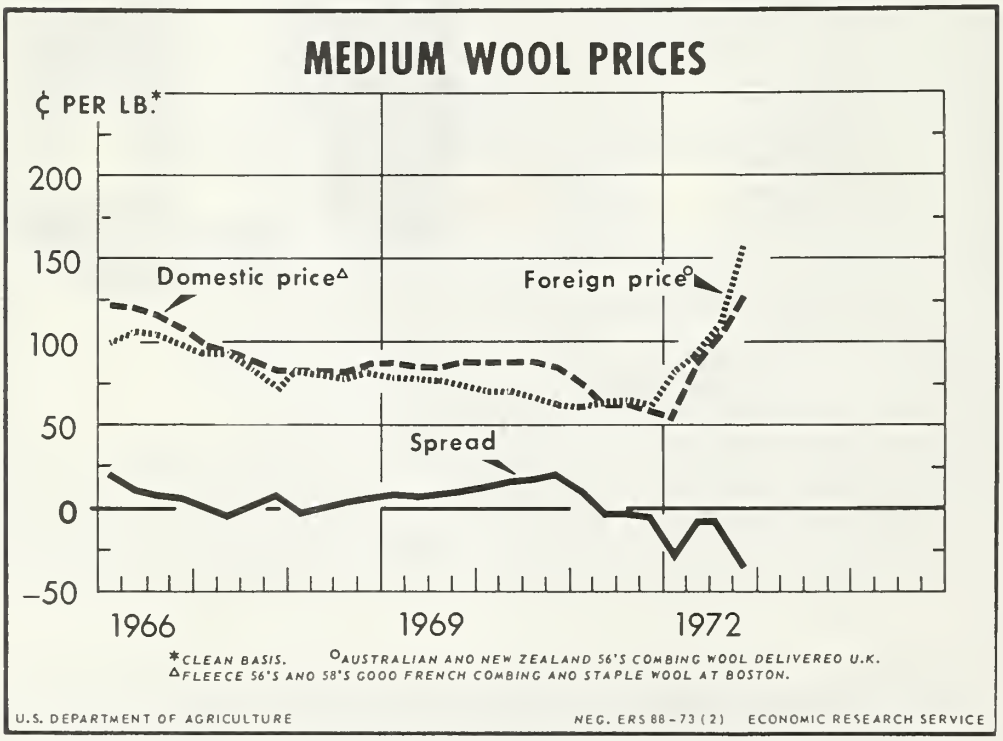

Figure 2

102,22p. FEB 1973.

THE WOOL SITUATION [1972]

CONTENTS

	Page
Summary	3
The U.S., Wool Situation	4
Prices	4
Sheep Numbers	4
Mill Activity	5
Foreign Trade	8
The Mohair Situation	10
The World Situation	10
Prices and Supplies	10
Mill Activity	12
Southern Hemisphere Exports	12

• • •

Approved by
The Outlook and Situation Board
and Summary released
February 16, 1973

Principal contributor
Larry B. Clayton

Economic and Statistical Analysis Division

Economic Research Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

• • •

The *Wool Situation* is published in February, April, August, and October.

SUMMARY

Strong farm prices of wool are likely this year, averaging well above 1972 and a vivid contrast to the 1971 depression. The average price received by producers for shorn wool in 1972 is expected to be around 35 cents a pound, compared with 19 cents in 1971. Recent sales for spring and summer delivery are especially bullish, reflecting strong foreign markets and devaluation of the U.S. dollar. There have been declining stocks and less domestic production of wool along with an increased level of mill consumption. Also, prices of raw wool in foreign markets have kept ahead of prices in the United States, encouraging exports and limiting imports.

Increased market prices during 1972 for both wool and lamb hiked the farm value of all sheep and lambs on hand January 1, 1973, by 11 percent from a year earlier. However, cost and other production pressures mounted, and there was a further 6 percent decrease in the number of stock sheep on farms and ranches. This means fewer sheep to shear in 1973 and another decline in wool production.

Mill consumption of raw apparel wool in 1972 increased 23 percent to 143 million pounds, scoured basis. Low fiber prices in 1971 and early 1972, coupled with increased consumer incomes, aided mill use. Also, there were increased exports of wool mill products, particularly tops. The gain in mill use during 1972 was kept smaller than it otherwise would have been, as large trade stocks of textiles rather than new output were used to fill orders.

The reduced stocks of textiles favor the outlook for 1973 mill use. Exports of tops may continue, and general economic advances will encourage domestic demand for textiles. Still, the rise in prices of raw wool and competition from man-made fibers probably will limit mill use to the level of 1972.

U.S. net imports of both apparel wool and textiles dropped sharply in 1972. Exports increased and imports declined, as domestic prices lagged foreign markets. The import balance of raw wool declined by two-thirds to 14 million pounds, clean content, and the import balance of textiles was off one-third to 47 million.

Mill use of carpet wool was slightly larger in 1972. But rising prices of the raw fiber point to less use in 1973 and smaller imports of the duty-free wools. This

would mean a further loss for wool in the expanding market for carpets and rugs.

World supplies of wool have dropped sharply in the past year. The previous large stocks in the Southern Hemisphere have diminished and world production is declining. Wool mill activity recovered during 1972, raising consumption of wool above production. Prices of Australian and New Zealand combing wools by January 1973 averaged 2.6 times what they were in January 1972. World mill use of wool is expected to average smaller as 1973 wears on, prompting some retrenchment of prices. Still, buyers will continue facing a relatively tight supply situation, and prices likely will stay above most of 1972.

Reversing a declining trend of the past several years, mohair production in 1973 is expected to be up, based on the 7 percent increase in Texas goat numbers. But with the apparent decrease in beginning stocks, total U.S. supplies of mohair may be off a little. Lagging production in Turkey and South Africa will help keep European demand for U.S. mohair strong. But last year's record U.S. exports will be hard to match. Farm prices of mohair probably will average higher again in 1973, after having jumped from 30 cents a pound (grease basis) in 1971 to $1.25 by late 1972. Recent contract prices reportedly were $1.73 for spring adult hair and $2.08 for kid hair.

THE U.S. WOOL SITUATION

Domestic Wool Prices Up

Wool prices in the United States have staged a major comeback from the Depression ebb posted in 1971. However, growers' prices of shorn wool in 1972 probably averaged no higher than in most other recent years. The final average price for 1972, which will not be published until March 30, is currently estimated at around 35 cents a pound, grease basis. Prices early in the year were sharply below average, but moved ahead as the season progressed. (See table 1.)

Table 1.—Average U.S. farm prices for shorn wool, grease basis

Month	1969	1970	1971	1972[1]	1973[1]
	Cents	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*
January	37.4	35.6	25.3	20.4	54.4
February	38.2	35.7	24.6	21.1	
March	40.4	36.5	23.3	24.0	
April	42.8	37.5	22.9	29.5	
May	43.5	36.6	21.2	37.0	
June	42.8	37.5	21.3	41.2	
July	41.4	37.1	18.7	41.1	
August	39.9	34.2	17.9	43.0	
September	39.2	31.6	18.9	44.0	
October	39.6	32.5	17.0	46.7	
November	38.6	31.7	17.9	49.0	
December	38.6	28.2	16.8	48.0	
Weighted season average	41.8	35.5	19.4		

[1] Preliminary.

Crop Reporting Board, SRS.

Prices of all grades of domestic wool advanced during 1972. Also, the usual premiums for fine wool returned as markets for these wools strengthened more than for medium wool. Normal price relationships between domestic fine and medium wools had been distorted the previous 2 years with abundant fine wool supplies and lagging demand for the finer grades. (See figures 1 and 2, and table 10.)

The price spread between similar quality domestic and foreign wools, however, continues unusually wide. Prices of U.S. wools fell to low levels relative to foreign wools in 1971, began to catch up in mid-1972, but then lagged again as 1972 closed with price rises much sharper overseas. The most apparent result of this has already been seen in the transition to exports of both raw wool and wool tops.

Improved domestic prices in 1972 reflected slightly less production and greater mill use. There were larger exports and reduced imports of raw wool, with prices stronger in foreign markets. Also, wool stocks in the United States apparently have declined.

The developments of 1972 led to a strong price basis for the opening of 1973. Farm prices of wool delivered to the trade in January averaged about 54 cents a pound, grease basis. However, several recent sales reportedly were made for later delivery at about 75 cents to as much as $1.14, depending on diffenences in grade and shrinkage.

Prospects are for domestic prices to continue relatively strong this spring and much of the summer. U.S. prices of wool may come under pressure by this fall, if foreign markets slip a little as expected. But the annual average price received by producers in 1973 likely will be up again. Devaluation of the U.S. dollar is a plus factor in domestic markets. Stocks of wool have been reduced and production is expected to decline slightly. Mill use of wool may hold up, based on reduced trade stocks of wool textiles, exports of wool tops, and strong domestic consumer demand.

U.S. Stock Sheep Numbers Decline

The sheep industry has continued under pressure from several fronts—including rising costs of

production, losses due to predators, inadequate labor, and lagging overall income compared with alternative farm enterprises. This has resulted in sheep farms decreasing 8,000 in number during the last year, reducing the total to 162,000. Stock sheep on farms and ranches, at 14.9 million head on January 1, 1973, were 6 percent fewer than a year earlier (table 2).

The decrease in the sheep inventory points to less wool production for 1973. This would continue the decline underway since 1960 and would mean a further cut in shorn wool production from the 153 million pounds, grease basis, in 1972.

Farm value of all sheep and lambs on hand January 1, however, increased 11 percent from a year earlier to $473 million. Market prices rose both for wool and lambs. Average value of sheep increased from $22.90 to $26.70.

Table 2.—The U.S. stock sheep inventory, number and change from previous year, January 1

Year	Lambs		One year and older		Total stock sheep	
	Number	Change	Number	Change	Number	Change
	Thousand	*Percent*	*Thousand*	*Percent*	*Thousand*	*Percent*
1963	4,081	-7	21,041	-6	25,122	-6
1964	3,803	-7	19,652	-7	23,455	-7
1965	3,451	-9	18,392	-6	21,843	-7
1966	3,770	+9	17,686	-4	21,456	-2
1967	3,647	-3	17,029	-4	20,677	-4
1968	3,115	-15	15,995	-6	19,108	-8
1969	2,974	-5	15,382	-4	18,355	-4
1970	2,897	-3	14,536	-6	17,433	-5
1971	2,742	-5	14,205	-2	16,946	-3
1972	2,375	-13	13,460	-5	15,835	-7
1973[1]	2,249	-5	12,604	-6	14,853	-6

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of Crop Reporting Board, SRS.

Wool Mill Activity Up

Wool mill activity picked up in 1972, after having dropped sharply during 1970 and 1971. Combined use of all fibers in woolen and worsted mills increased 8 percent. Stronger consumer incomes and increased military buying stimulated textile manufacturing. Also, prices of raw wool were relatively low in late 1971 and the first half of 1972. Mill use of raw apparel wool increased 23 percent, and use of carpet wool 2 percent. There was a gain of 6 percent in the use of man-made fibers. Consumption of other fibers including reprocessed and reused wool totaled about the same as in 1971. (See figures 3 and 4, and tables 3 and 15.)

Apparel wools grading 60's and finer have been in greatest demand. Their use had been down in 1970 and 1971, but increased to 53 percent of total apparel wool use in 1972. Use of coarser apparel wool slipped 7 points to 47 percent of total use. (See table 4.)

The worsted sector used about 22 percent more raw apparel wool last year, with production of wool tops up by 14 million pounds. Large mill stocks of wool tops a year ago limited the increase in production, as some of these stocks rather than new output were used to fill orders. Exports of wool tops were up. (See table 5.)

Table 3.—U.S. mill consumption of raw wool, scoured basis

Year	Apparel wool	Carpet wool	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1963	251,344	160,399	411,743
1964	233,932	122,737	356,669
1965	274,696	112,330	387,026
1966	266,587	103,587	370,174
1967	228,659	83,851	312,510
1968	238,290	91,407	329,697
1969	219,035	93,758	312,793
1970	163,652	76,609	240,261
1971	116,310	75,151	191,461
1972[1]	142,913	76,319	219,232

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Use of raw apparel wool also increased in woolen system manufacturing. Consumption rose 24 percent, based on the low prices that had been paid for raw wool along with improved consumer demand for wool textile products.

Mill use of raw apparel wool in 1973 will be under continued pressure of competition of man-made fibers and higher average raw wool prices. However,

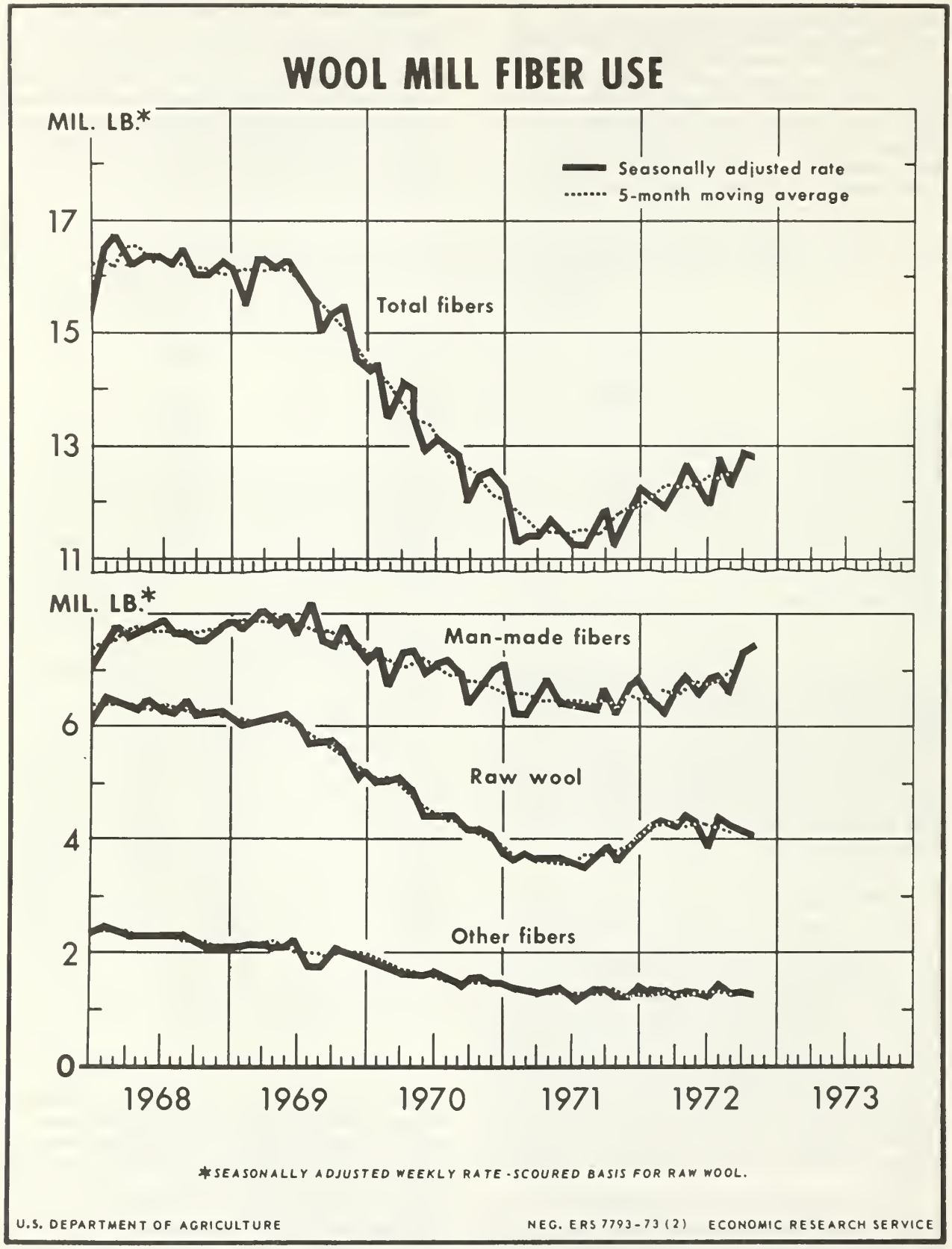
WOOL MILL FIBER USE
MIL. LB.*
Seasonally adjusted rate
5-month moving average
17
15
13
11
Total fibers
MIL. LB.*
Man-made fibers
6
Raw wool
4
Other fibers
2
0
1968
1969
1970
1971
1972
1973
*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED WEEKLY RATE - SCOURED BASIS FOR RAW WOOL.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 7793-73 (2) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

Figure 3

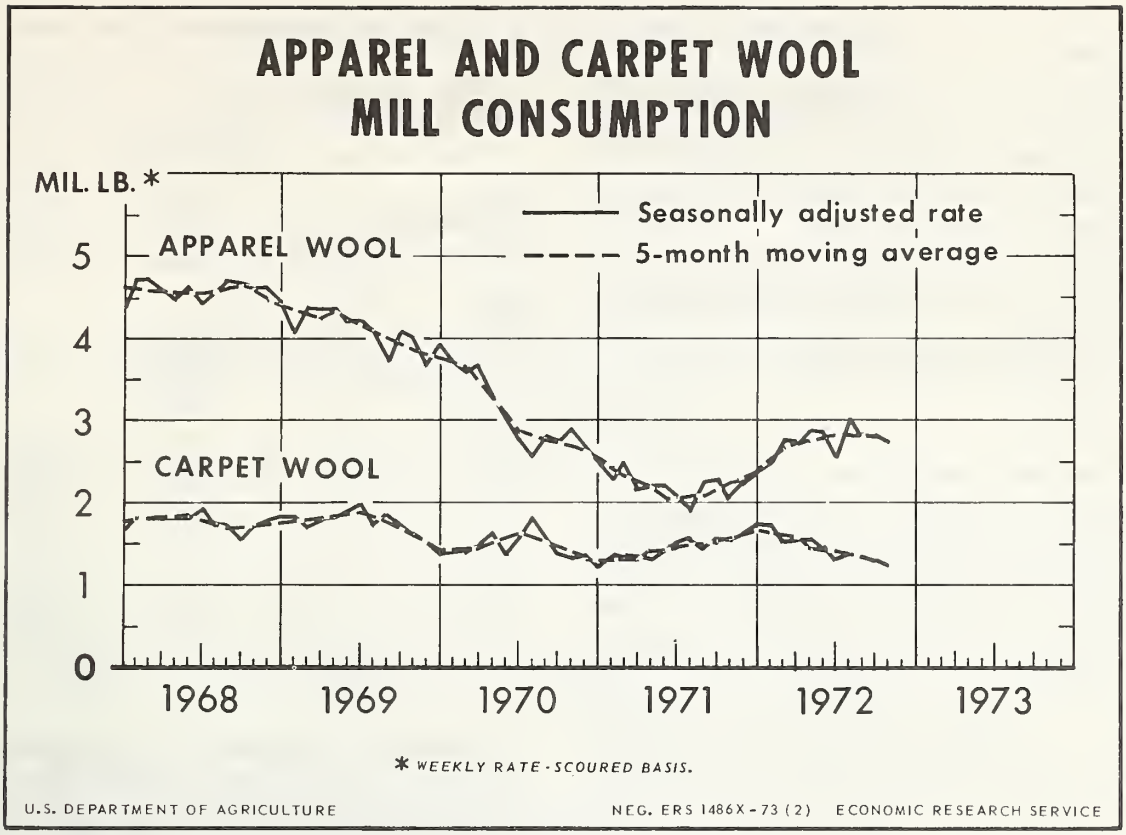

Figure 4

Table 4.—Distribution of apparel wool consumption

Year	60's and finer	50's up to 60's	48's and Coarser	Total
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
		Woolen system		
1968	35.8	56.2	8.0	100.0
1969	37.0	55.1	7.9	100.0
1970	35.7	54.4	9.9	100.0
1971	36.5	53.7	9.8	100.0
1972[1]	39.7	53.1	7.2	100.0
		Worsted system		
1968	58.0	42.0		100.0
1969	59.3	40.7		100.0
1970	46.7	53.3		100.0
1971	49.8	50.2		100.0
1972[1]	59.7	40.3		100.0
		Total		
1968	50.2	49.8		100.0
1969	51.2	48.8		100.0
1970	43.1	56.9		100.0
1971	45.2	54.8		100.0
1972[1]	52.7	47.3		100.0

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 5.—U.S. production and stocks of wool tops

Year	Production	Stocks January 1	
		Quantity	Weeks of production[1]
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*Number*
1960	118,506	20,253	9.0
1961	133,262	22,014	11.2
1962	151,851	17,008	6.0
1963	134,596	21,312	7.4
1964	129,018	24,053	11.9
1965	157,888	17,663	5.2
1966	155,258	19,610	4.8
1967	130,102	26,011	11.1
1968	142,390	19,549	7.6
1969	128,441	21,682	9.1
1970	102,623	16,498	7.1
1971	70,234	18,191	10.6
1972	84,714	18,560	15.5

[1] Stocks compared with production during 3 previous months.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

other factors may keep mill use close to the 143 million pounds used in 1972. Demand for textiles should continue strong, as consumer incomes move ahead. Stocks of wool textiles have been reduced, and unfilled orders for fabric have increased slightly. Also, the wide spread between prices of domestic and foreign raw wool has kept the export market open for domestically produced wool tops.

Demand for carpeting also is strong. But wool's position in this market is giving way to man-made fibers. World supplies of carpet wool have declined and prices of these wools are up sharply. Mill use of raw carpet wool in 1973 may slip below the 76 million pounds used in 1972.

1972 Wool Fabric Output Down

Production of broadwoven wool fabric during the first 3 quarters of 1972 totaled 76 million linear yards, 17 percent less than a year earlier. However, the trend in production bottomed out during 1972, and differences in output compared with 1971 narrowed as the year progressed. First-quarter 1972 production was down a third, but output in July-September equaled a year earlier. Fourth-quarter 1972 output probably was a little more than in 1971. Still, fabric output for 1972 as a whole probably was off by 10-15 percent from 113 million linear yards in 1971. (See table 17).

Production of wool apparel fabric decreased 19 percent in the first 9 months of 1972, with declines occurring both in markets for men's and women's wear. Output of wool blankets and other non-apparel fabric was up a fourth, and production of woven wool felt increased slightly.

Demand for carpets kept booming along last year, as increasing consumer incomes zeroed in on this area of textiles. Mill shipments of all types of rugs and carpeting totaled 664 million square yards during January-September, 21 percent more than a year earlier (table 6). This has been reflected in increased use of fiber, especially the non-cellulosics. Wool's relative position in the carpet market has declined.

Net Imports of Wool Textiles Decline

U.S. net imports of semiprocessed and manufactured apparel wool textiles declined a third to 47 million pounds in 1972. This continued the downward trend underway since 1968 when net imports of 128 million pounds were record large. Moderating consumer demand for products made of apparel wool has been associated with the reduced level of net imports. Also, low prices of raw wool in the United States relative to prices elsewhere during 1971 and 1972 improved the competitive position of output from domestic mills. (See figure 5, and tables 18 and 19.)

Table 6.—U.S. mill shipments of rugs and carpets

Year and quarter	Total	Change from a year earlier
	Million square yards	*Percent*
1968	586.2	+18.1
1969	642.6	+9.6
1970	680.5	+5.9
1971	755.2	+11.0
1970		
1st	160.9	+4.5
2nd	170.0	+7.5
3rd	170.8	+5.9
4th	178.8	+5.7
1971		
1st	171.2	+6.4
2nd	188.5	+10.9
3rd	190.2	+11.4
4th	205.3	+14.8
1972		
1st	207.7	+21.3
2nd	229.5	+21.8
3rd	226.9	+19.3

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Exports of wool tops picked up in the second half of 1971 and during 1972 totaled 25 million pounds. This brought total exports of apparel products last year to 32 million pounds. This compares with 11 million pounds in 1971 and an average of 8 million during 1966-70.

Imports of semiprocessed and manufactured apparel wool textiles in 1972 totaled 79 million pounds, 2 percent less than 1971. Imports of yarn and fabric declined 18 percent and 25 percent respectively, while imports of apparel were down 12 percent. Combined imports of wool noils and wastes were up 38 percent.

Exports and Imports of Raw Wool

Net imports of raw apparel wool also declined sharply last year—by two-thirds to 14 million pounds, clean content, (figure 5). This occurred despite a further decline in U.S. production and larger mill use. As in textiles, the relatively low domestic prices encouraged exports and limited imports of raw wool. Also, commercial stocks of raw wool at the beginning of 1972 totaled sharply above usual mill requirements. Stocks probably have dropped sharply from a year ago, however, indicating prospects for a larger import balance in 1973. Another decline in domestic production also points to more imports.

U.S. exports of raw wool picked up from negligible quantities to 6.3 million pounds, clean content, in 1971, and then to 11.2 million in 1972. Exports last year, however, averaged smaller as the year progressed, dropping from about 5.2 million in the first quarter to 0.2 million in the fourth quarter.

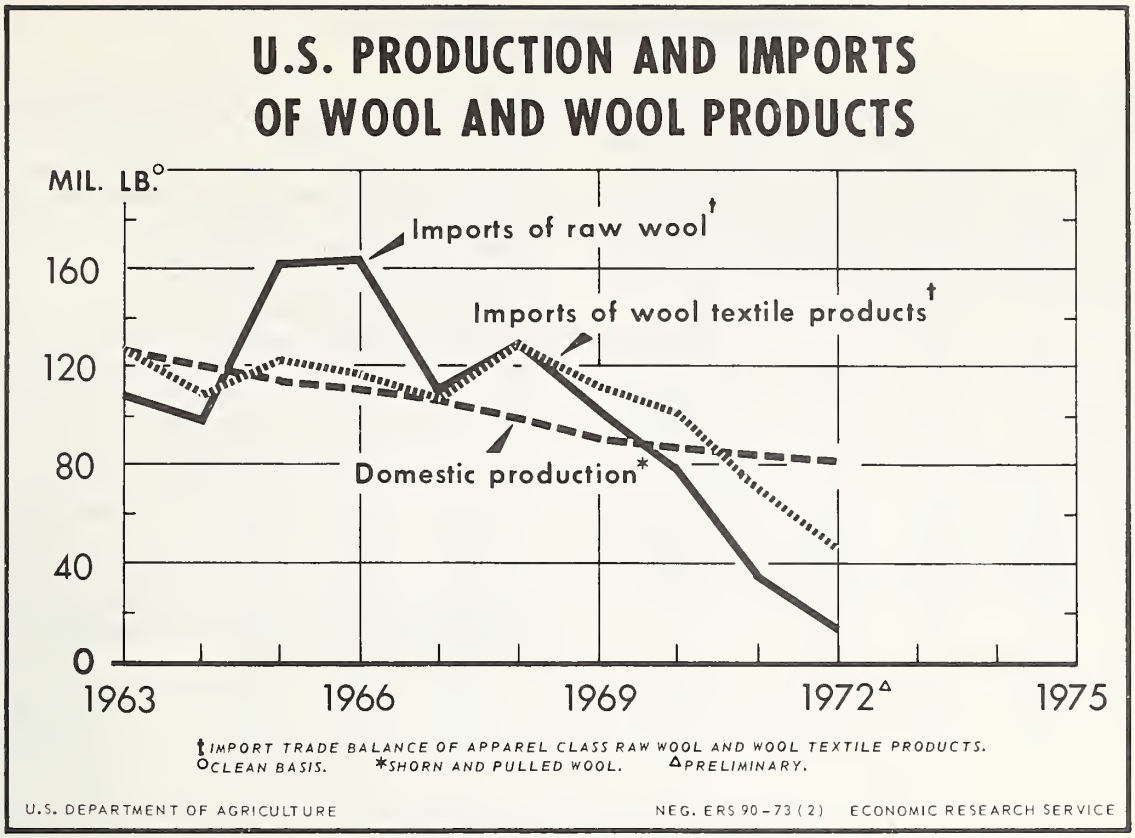

Figure 5

Imports of raw apparel wool (all dutiable wools) declined from 43 million pounds in 1971 to 25 million, clean content, in 1972. The composition of these imports shifted markedly with 60's and finer wools accounting for 84 percent of total imports in 1972 compared with about 69 percent in 1971. Coarser wools accounted for a reduced share of total imports. This largely reflected the higher percentage of fine wools and the smaller share of medium wools reported in mill consumption. (See tables 7 and 8.)

Table 7.—U.S. imports of dutiable and duty-free raw wool for consumption, clean content

Year	Dutiable	Duty-free	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1963	109,196	167,962	277,158
1964	98,415	113,932	212,347
1965	162,637	108,943	271,580
1966	162,537	114,625	277,162
1967	109,071	78,205	187,276
1968	129,717	119,599	249,316
1969	93,523	95,664	189,187
1970	79,810	73,325	153,134
1971	42,682	83,893	126,575
1972[1]	24,790	71,849	96,639

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 8.—Quality composition of dutiable and duty-free imports

Grade	1969	1970	1971	1972[1]
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
	Dutiable			
60's and finer	70.0	58.0	68.6	83.9
50's up to 60's	17.3	26.1	19.4	6.6
44's up to 50's	4.1	5.9	3.9	3.9
40's and coarser	8.6	10.0	8.1	5.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Duty-free			
46's	8.0	3.0	2.0	5.1
44's	24.5	24.6	27.0	23.6
40's and coarser	55.8	60.2	63.6	60.3
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	11.7	12.2	7.4	11.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Imports of duty-free raw wool may slip a little in 1973, as increased prices of these wools are dimming consumption prospects in the carpet sector. Last year's imports totaled 72 million pounds, 14 percent less than 1971. Little change occurred in the overall quality composition of these imports.

THE MOHAIR SITUATION

Mohair markets last year proved the goat still has a kick, with overseas demand for U.S. mohair up sharply. There were record exports and rising prices. Mohair production has been declining since 1965. But producers expanded their goat numbers 7 percent during the last year in response to the increased prices of mohair. This indicates some recovery in output of mohair during 1973.

Demand for goats strengthened, as producers moved to expand their flocks. The average value of goats on January 1, 1973 increased 44 percent from a year earlier to a record $8.90. Total value of goats on Texas farms and ranches was up 53 percent.

Supplies of mohair in the United States during 1973, however, are expected to be down slightly from last year, despite more production. Combined domestic use and exports of mohair last year sharply exceeded production, indicating a substantial drop in stocks.

Use of mohair and other specialty hair fibers increased a fourth on the woolen system during 1972. But there was a sharp drop in production of mohair tops. Exports forged ahead, reflecting stepped-up wool mill activity overseas and declining production of mohair in Turkey and South Africa. For the year as a whole, U.S. exports of mohair increased 54 percent to 23 million pounds, grease basis.

Demand for U.S. mohair may continue relatively strong in the months ahead. But reduced supplies and increased prices likely will limit total use and exports.

Prices received by producers for mohair moved up from an average of some 30 cents a pound, grease basis, in 1971 to about 65 cents last spring, and then to $1.25 a pound during November, December, and January. Some spring adult hair in the last few weeks reportedly has been contracted for export at $1.73 with kid hair at $2.08. Farm prices of mohair likely will continue relatively strong. And average prices should be up again this year, with demand firm and supplies slightly smaller.

THE WORLD WOOL SITUATION

Wool Supplies Down; Prices Higher

Wool prices in world markets pulled out of their slump during the last year, reflecting a turnaround in the supply-demand balance of raw wool. World production marked its fourth consecutive decline. At the same time, mill consumption of wool picked up and exceeded production. Large Southern Hemisphere stocks which had been hanging over the market since 1967 entered commercial channels. Prices of combing wool in Australia and New Zealand strengthened during January-October 1972, retreated slightly in November, and then staged another advance. By January 1973, prices averaged about 2.6 times what they were 12 months earlier, with prices of all grades of wool up. (See figures 1 and 2, and table 9.)

The improved price situation is an encouraging element in the distant prospects for world sheep numbers and wool production. Supplies of wool in the near term, however, are being restricted by farmers' continued response to declining wool prices during 1967-71 and increasing costs of production. World wool production during the 1972 season, including 1972/73 output in the Southern Hemisphere, is down again. Early estimates indicate somewhat larger production in Argentina and Uruguay. But recent reports place output in Australia and South Africa down a tenth, and U.S. production has declined.

Stocks of wool in chief producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere have been declining, as buyers with bigger orders encountered smaller new-clip production. Southern Hemishphere stocks dropped from 280 million pounds, clean basis, at the beginning of the 1971/72 season to 158 million in 1972/73. Most of the decrease occurred in wool commission stockpiles. Other stocks in the Southern Hemisphere have stayed close to normal levels. (See table 10.)

Stocks of raw wool in major manufacturing countries also have been lagging. This is associated with the improvement in mill consumption and strong prices that have developed at raw wool auctions.

Market developments in prospect for 1973 imply a continuation of relatively strong world prices for raw wool. Mill use of wool may decline as the year wears on. But this would only balance consumption with the lower level of production. Stocks of wool are not expected to increase. However, any decrease that may develop in mill consumption would ease buying intensity and cause prices to slip. Still, the limited supply of raw wool is expected to be a lasting feature of the market and keep prices above much of 1972.

Table 9.—Prices of Australian and New Zealand combing wool, Bradford grade, C.I.F., United Kingdom, clean dry-combed basis

Year and month	70's	64's	60's	58's	56's	50's	48's	46's	Average 8 grades
	U.S. cents per pound								
1971									
January	86.4	77.4	71.6	69.4	61.4	51.5	46.9	44.7	63.7
February	86.8	77.8	72.0	69.7	61.7	51.7	47.3	45.0	64.0
March	86.7	77.9	72.4	70.2	63.6	54.9	50.5	48.3	65.6
April	86.6	77.9	72.4	70.2	64.7	55.9	50.4	49.4	65.9
May	88.9	81.2	75.7	72.4	68.0	57.1	52.7	51.6	68.5
June	90.0	82.3	76.8	73.5	68.0	57.1	53.8	52.7	69.3
July	90.0	82.3	76.8	73.5	68.0	57.1	53.8	52.7	69.3
August	90.6	82.8	77.3	74.0	65.2	56.3	54.1	53.0	69.2
September	89.6	81.8	77.3	73.9	63.9	53.8	52.7	51.5	68.1
October	90.4	82.5	78.0	74.6	59.9	53.1	52.0	50.8	67.7
November	90.5	82.6	78.0	74.6	62.2	56.6	54.3	53.2	69.0
December	91.7	84.8	80.2	76.8	64.2	57.3	56.2	55.0	70.8
1972									
January	99.1	92.1	86.3	81.6	75.8	66.5	64.1	63.0	78.6
February	108.7	101.6	95.7	88.6	82.7	73.2	68.5	67.3	85.8
March	110.4	103.3	97.4	91.4	90.3	77.2	73.6	72.4	89.5
April	117.2	110.1	104.2	97.1	90.0	79.3	75.8	73.4	93.4
May	122.0	114.9	107.8	101.9	96.0	81.8	75.8	73.5	96.7
June	129.4	125.9	117.7	109.5	94.4	80.4	75.7	74.6	101.0
July	120.9	117.5	109.8	103.1	93.2	81.0	76.5	75.4	97.2
August	137.8	132.3	125.6	116.7	106.7	93.4	88.9	87.8	111.1
September	157.2	147.3	139.5	130.7	134.0	112.9	109.6	108.5	130.0
October	228.1	197.7	186.8	179.2	160.8	134.7	121.7	119.5	166.1
November	207.9	183.4	173.8	167.4	151.4	120.5	113.0	110.9	153.5
December	214.9	196.8	188.3	180.8	167.0	136.1	121.2	119.1	165.5
1973									
January	267.2	256.5	245.8	235.1	213.8	158.2	134.7	130.4	205.2
Latest data as percent of a year earlier	269.6	278.5	284.8	288.1	282.1	237.9	210.1	207.0	261.1

Compiled from reports of New Zealand Wool Marketing Corporation.

Table 10.—Stocks of wool in major surplus-producing countries, clean basis[1]

Beginning of season[2]	Australia	Australian Wool Commission	New Zealand	New Zealand Wool Commission	South Africa	South African Wool Commission	Argentina	Uruguay	Total
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
1962/63	33	---	15	---	1	---	22	14	85
1963/64	30	---	14	---	1	---	14	13	72
1964/65	38	---	17	---	2	---	42	40	139
1965/66	49	---	26	---	3	1	47	24	150
1966/67	36	---	22	---	2	---	27	14	101
1967/68	42	---	18	161	0	2	64	20	307
1968/69	33	---	22	172	0	4	57	15	303
1969/70	46	---	22	119	0	0	44	11	242
1970/71	29	---	29	86	2	7	49	15	217
1971/72	[3]42	60	26	66	2	31	42	11	280
1972/73	[3]53	24	22	18	1	1	35	4	158

[1] Includes unsold stocks held by growers and merchants in producing countries, Government strategic reserves, and Wool Commission stocks. Excludes stocks held by wool users. [2] July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. [3] Includes 18 million pounds of Price Averaging Plan wools in 1971/72 and 20 million in 1972/73.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

World Wool Use Up In 1972

Mill use of raw wool in major manufacturing countries during January-September 1972 totaled 8 percent more than a year earlier (table 11). Stronger general economic growth in the United States, Japan, and much of Western Europe stimulated demand for textiles. The relatively low average prices of raw wool in late 1971 and early 1972 aided the wool sector. Also, 1971's reduced production of wool textiles led to smaller trade stocks of products which helped wool mill activity in 1972.

Mill use of wool in major manufacturing countries for the full year 1972 is expected to be near the 8 percent increase of the first 9 months. Wool use in each of the 10 countries except Belgium probably advanced. However, wool mill performance in other countries including the USSR was much less dramatic, and off slightly in some countries. Total world mill use of raw wool probably was up some 3 to 5 percent from 1971.

Quarterly figures show a cyclical uptrend in mill consumption of wool in major manufacturing countries during October-December 1971 and the first 9 months of 1972. (See figure 6,) A little further increase may be reported through the early months of 1973, as demand continues relatively strong and mill stocks of wool tops have been reduced. But limited supplies and the increased prices of raw wool along with competition from man-made fibers dim consumption prospects. There probably will be less wool included in the design of textiles for distant retail seasons. And for 1973 as a whole, world mill use is expected to average somewhat less than in 1972.

Wool Textile Output Larger

Production of wool textiles in major manufacturing countries during the first 3 quarters of 1972 was running well ahead of a year earlier. About 9 percent more wool tops and worsted yarn were produced. Output of woolen yarn increased 4 percent and woven fabrics a tenth. (See table 20.)

The United States, United Kingdom, Italy, and West Germany accounted for most of the increase in production of wool tops. Most of the increase in yarn output occurred in Italy, West Germany, and Japan. West Germany also expanded production of fabric as did France. But Japan led the list of fabric producers with a 30 percent gain.

Southern Hemisphere Exports May Decline

Exports of raw wool from the 5 chief producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere increased about 5 percent during 1971/72. This reflected much larger shipments during the second half of the season when strengthening demand from the Northern Hemisphere enabled the commissions in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa to liquidate their stockpiles. Exports from Argentina and Uruguay were limited by declines in production. In fact, Uruguay prohibited new commitments on exports from mid-March to the end of September to conserve adequate supplies for domestic manufacturers. (See table 12.)

Sales of stock wool kept exports up from Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa in the early months

Table 11.—Mill consumption of wool, selected countries, clean content

Country	Year		1971				1972			Change	
	1970	1971	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	July-Sept. 1972 to July-Sept. 1971	Jan.-Sept. 1972 to Jan.-Sept. 1971
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Percent*	*Percent*
United States[1]	240.3	191.5	50.2	48.9	44.9	47.4	57.0	59.6	52.5	+16.9	+17.4
United Kingdom	337.3	311.3	82.5	82.2	67.0	79.4	82.0	86.6	79.4	+18.5	+7.0
France	293.4	318.3	83.1	83.1	66.8	85.3	90.8	89.5	64.2	-3.9	+4.9
Japan	433.2	401.5	95.9	102.1	102.1	101.4	101.6	109.1	108.7	+6.5	+6.4
Italy	204.8	195.1	48.7	52.0	41.7	52.9	56.4	58.9	47.6	+14.2	+14.4
West Germany	150.4	162.7	43.0	41.2	35.5	43.9	45.4	43.2	46.3	+30.4	+12.7
Belgium	89.1	66.6	18.5	19.2	14.1	17.2	17.2	18.1	13.7	-2.8	-5.4
Australia	80.9	76.7	17.9	19.6	19.8	19.4	17.2	21.2	20.0	+1.0	+1.9
Netherlands	17.9	18.5	4.6	4.9	4.2	4.9	5.3	5.3	4.6	+9.5	+11.0
Total	1,847.3	1,742.2	444.4	453.2	396.1	451.8	472.9	491.5	437.0	+10.3	+8.3

[1] Consumption on woolen and worsted systems only.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the Bureau of the Census.

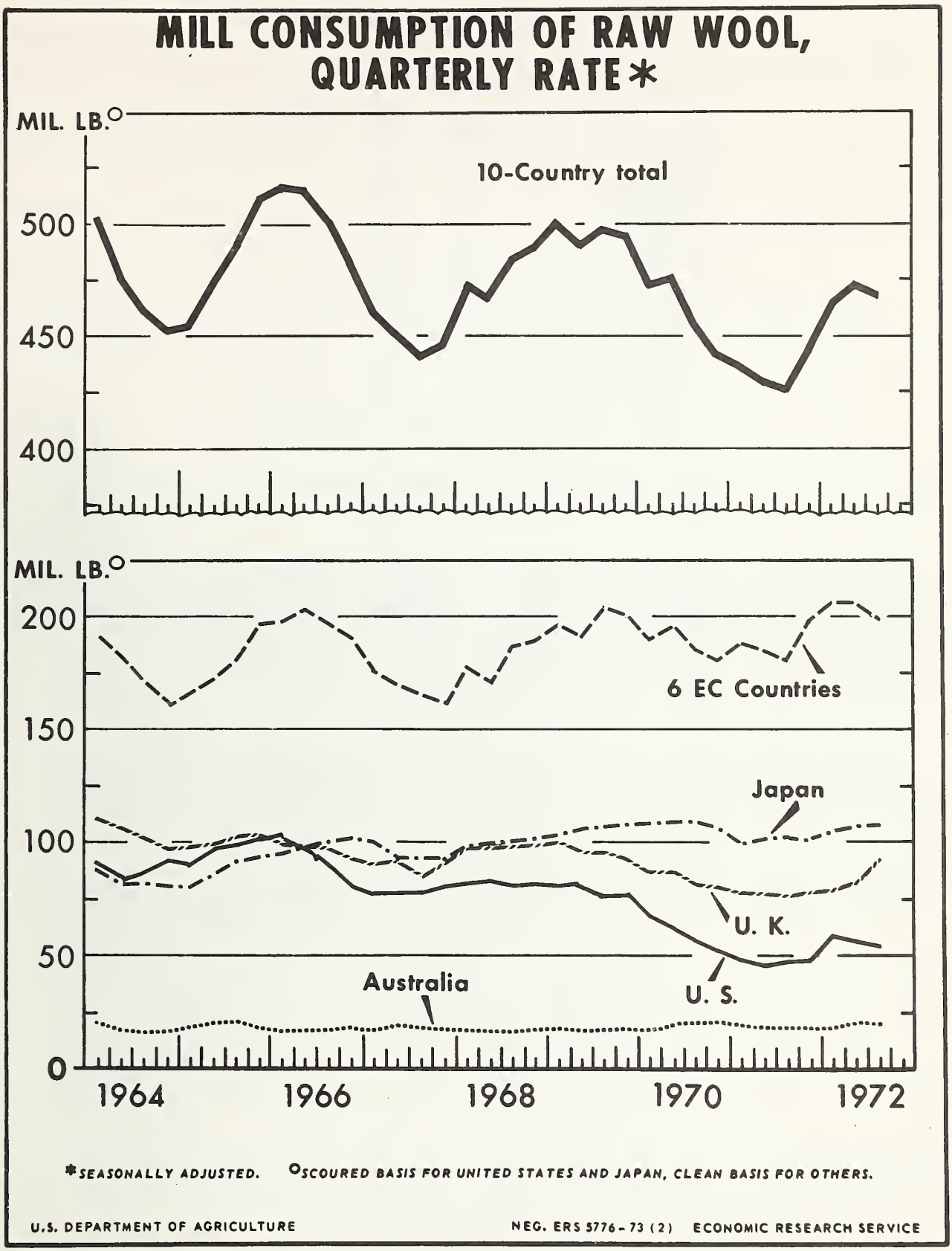
MILL CONSUMPTION OF RAW WOOL, QUARTERLY RATE*
MIL. LB.°
10-Country total
500
450
400
MIL. LB.°
200
150
100
50
0
6 EC Countries
Japan
U. K.
U. S.
Australia
1964
1966
1968
1970
1972
*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED. °SCOURED BASIS FOR UNITED STATES AND JAPAN, CLEAN BASIS FOR OTHERS.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 5776-73 (2) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

Figure 6

Table 12.—Exports of wool from major surplus-producing countries, actual weight[1]

Exporting country	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Australia:			
July-June	1,508	1,614	([2])
July-September	320	328	388
New Zealand:			
July-June	648	672	([2])
July-October	151	172	176
South Africa:			
July-June	170	245	([2])
July-October	40	35	37
Argentina:			
October-September	196	163	([2])
October-November	22	20	24
Uruguay:			
October-September	104	62	([2])
October-November	4	11	13

[1] Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Republic of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. [2] Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

of 1972/73. Production is recovering slightly in Argentina and Uruguay, and the latter country lifted its ban on exports during October.

Exports of wool from the Southern Hemisphere, however, may decline for 1972/73 as a whole. Commission stocks of wool have been reduced to negligible quantities, and Uruguay in November reimposed its restriction on exports of greasy wool. Also, production is declining in Australia and South Africa.

Table 13.—Selected measures of economic activity and wool prices

Item	1971			1972				1973
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
				Billion dollars				
Personal income payments, annual rate[1]	874.8	879.4	890.4	898.9	963.8	972.7	983.4	---
				Million dollars				
Retail apparel sales, monthly rate[1]	1,700	1,775	1,773	1,732	1,954	---	---	---
				1967=100				
BLS wholesale price index								
All commodities	114.4	114.5	115.4	116.3	120.0	120.7	122.9	---
Textile products and apparel	109.6	109.8	110.6	111.3	114.8	115.1	115.6	---
Wool products	92.4	92.3	91.5	92.0	106.6	107.1	108.8	---
Wool broadwoven fabrics	99.7	99.5	99.5	99.9	103.6	104.3	104.6	---
				Cents per pound				
Wool prices:								
Grease basis:								
Average price received by farmers	17.0	17.9	16.8	20.4	46.7	49.0	48.0	54.4
Wool Act Incentive price	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0
Parity price (effective following month)	102.0	103.0	103.0	103.0	108.0	109.0	110.0	110.0
Clean basis, Boston:								
Domestic								
Graded territory shorn wool								
Fine good French combing and staple	61.0	60.5	61.5	62.5	145.5	163.5	165.0	188.0
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	56.2	55.4	54.5	54.5	136.2	147.5	147.5	174.0
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	61.8	59.3	52.5	52.5	118.8	128.0	127.5	162.0
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	61.8	59.3	52.5	52.5	116.9	128.0	127.5	153.0
Low 1/4 blood	63.5	60.3	52.5	52.5	108.8	123.0	122.5	144.0
Graded fleece shorn wool								
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	54.4	54.0	54.0	54.0	132.5	145.5	142.5	165.0
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	62.1	59.3	52.5	52.5	116.5	131.0	132.5	154.5
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	62.1	59.3	52.5	52.5	115.0	127.0	127.5	149.5
Low 1/4 blood	62.5	60.0	52.5	52.5	108.8	124.0	122.5	144.0
Original bag Texas shorn wool								
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	60.0	61.0	61.9	62.5	142.5	157.5	157.5	186.0
Fine 8 months (1 in. and over)	46.0	46.0	46.9	47.5	125.0	147.5	147.5	147.5
Fine fall (3/4 in. and over)	43.0	47.5	49.0	49.0	---	---	---	---
Scoured pulled wool								
64's, 70's, 1-1/2 in. and longer	92.5	90.0	72.5	72.5	---	---	---	---
60's, 64's, 1-1/2 in. and longer	76.5	73.6	65.0	65.0	---	---	---	---
60's, 1-1/2 in. and longer	74.0	71.2	63.0	63.0	117.5	---	---	---
58's, 60's, 2 in. and longer	71.5	68.9	61.9	62.5	125.0	147.5	147.5	---
56's, 58's, 2 in. and longer	62.1	59.6	59.9	60.5	123.8	142.5	142.5	---
56's, 2 in. and longer	60.2	59.0	59.9	60.5	---	---	---	---
50's, 56's, 2 in. and longer	64.0	61.8	61.0	61.0	---	---	---	---
44's, 50's, 4 in. and longer	67.5	65.6	62.6	61.0	---	---	---	---
Foreign, excluding duty:								
Australian, 64's, warp and 1/2 warp	78.0	80.5	83.9	89.0	167.2	177.1	197.5	252.3
Australian, 64's, combing	74.0	75.8	78.9	84.9	165.3	174.7	195.5	249.6
Montevideo, 0's, (58's, 60's)	60.5	60.5	60.5	60.5	---	---	---	---

[1] Seasonally adjusted.

Table 14.—Raw wool: U.S. mill consumption and imports

Item	Unit	1971				1972				Latest data as percent of a year earlier
		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
Mill consumption, scoured basis[1]										
Average weekly rate during month[2]										
Apparel wool[3]	1,000									
60's and finer	pounds	1,048	1,059	936	1,009	1,465	1,548	1,343	1,280	127
Coarser than 60's	do.	1,097	1,147	989	975	1,250	1,189	1,164	1,192	122
Total apparel wool	do.	2,145	2,206	1,925	1,984	2,715	2,737	2,507	2,472	125
Carpet wool[4]	do.	1,499	1,740	1,603	1,520	1,452	1,499	1,291	1,106	73
Total apparel and carpet	do.	3,644	3,946	3,528	3,504	4,167	4,236	3,798	3,578	102
Monthly aggregates[2]										
Apparel wool[3]	Million									
60's and finer	pounds	5.2	4.2	3.7	5.0	7.3	6.2	6.7	5.1	102
Coarser than 60's	do.	5.5	4.6	4.0	4.9	6.3	4.8	5.8	4.8	98
Total apparel wool	do.	10.7	8.8	7.7	9.9	13.6	10.9	12.5	9.9	100
Carpet wool[4]	do.	7.5	7.0	6.4	7.6	7.3	6.0	6.5	4.4	58
Total apparel and carpet	do.	18.2	15.8	14.1	17.5	20.9	16.9	19.0	14.3	82
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel wool[3]	Million									
By grade	pounds									
60's and finer	do.	39.5	43.7	47.5	52.5	57.3	63.5	70.2	75.3	143
Coarser than 60's	do.	50.4	54.9	58.9	63.8	52.3	57.0	62.9	67.6	106
By system										
Woolen	do.	31.0	33.9	36.8	40.5	39.0	42.6	46.9	50.1	124
Worsted	do.	58.9	64.8	69.6	75.8	70.5	77.8	86.1	92.8	122
Total apparel wool	do.	89.9	98.7	106.4	116.3	109.5	120.4	133.0	142.9	123
Carpet wool[4]		54.2	61.1	67.5	75.2	59.4	65.4	71.9	76.3	101
Total apparel and carpet	do.	144.1	159.8	173.9	191.5	168.9	185.8	204.9	219.2	114
Imports for consumption, clean content										
Monthly aggregates										
Dutiable wool	1,000									
60's and finer	pounds	3,532	2,163	47	548	1,268	1,222	2,246	1,259	230
50's up to 60's	do.	858	204	35	134	117	105	169	213	159
44's up to 50's	do.	142	63	61	---	109	15	80	32	---
40's and coarser	do.	341	22	47	152	98	35	79	50	33
Total dutiable wool	do.	4,874	2,452	190	835	1,592	1,377	2,574	1,553	186
Duty-free wool										
46's	do.	38	33	24	167	265	408	99	137	82
44's	do.	2,025	411	145	2,709	1,029	1,083	1,014	949	35
40's and coarser	do.	5,485	2,210	451	6,775	2,225	2,487	2,343	2,277	34
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	855	214	142	215	1,098	400	713	796	370
Total duty-free wool	do.	8,403	2,868	762	9,865	4,617	4,378	4,169	4,159	42
Total free and dutiable	do.	13,277	5,320	952	10,700	6,209	5,755	6,742	5,712	53
Accumulated since January 1										
Dutiable wool	Million									
60's and finer	pounds	26.6	28.7	28.8	29.3	16.1	17.3	19.5	20.8	71
50's up to 60's	do.	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.6	19
44's up to 50's	do.	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	.8	.9	.9	1.0	59
40's and coarser	do.	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.4	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	41
Total dutiable wool	do.	39.2	41.7	41.8	42.7	19.3	20.7	23.2	24.8	58
Duty-free wool										
46's	do.	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.7	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.7	218
44's	do.	19.4	19.8	20.0	22.7	13.9	15.0	16.0	17.0	75
40's and coarser	do.	43.9	46.1	46.6	53.3	36.2	38.7	41.0	43.3	81
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.4	7.1	7.9	127
Total duty-free wool	do.	70.4	73.3	74.0	83.9	59.1	63.5	67.7	71.8	86
Total free and dutiable	do.	109.6	114.9	115.9	126.6	78.4	84.2	90.9	96.6	76

[1] On woolen and worsted systems; excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning systems and in the manufacture of processed felt, hat bodies, and other miscellaneous products. [2] Monthly periods are 4 or 5 calendar weeks generally totaling 13 weeks per quarter. [3] Domestic and duty-paid foreign wool. [4] Duty-free foreign wool.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 15.— Fibers consumed and percentage distribution of wool and other fibers in woolen and worsted mills, United States

Fiber and year	Worsted system		Woolen system				Total fibers consumed	
			For yarns, except carpet and rug		For carpet and rug yarns			
	1,000 pounds	*Percent*	*1,000 pounds*	*Percent*	*1,000 pounds*	*Percent*	*1,000 pounds*	*Percent*
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep								
1968	154,715	54.2	83,575	28.9	91,407	33.9	329,697	39.1
1969	139,216	50.9	79,819	28.1	93,758	34.0	312,793	37.5
1970	110,650	53.0	53,002	22.0	76,609	31.8	240,261	34.8
1971	75,791	55.1	40,519	19.5	75,151	29.5	191,461	31.9
1972[2]	92,774	55.7	50,139	22.9	76,319	29.0	219,232	33.7
Man-made fibers								
1968	118,685	41.6	104,779	36.3	171,522	63.6	394,986	46.8
1969	125,749	46.0	109,186	38.4	175,922	63.8	410,857	49.3
1970	92,793	44.4	110,891	46.0	160,400	66.5	364,084	52.7
1971	58,720	42.6	103,468	49.9	176,623	69.3	338,811	56.5
1972[2]	71,297	42.8	103,636	47.3	184,032	69.9	358,965	55.3
Other fibers[1]								
1968	11,931	4.2	100,436	34.8	6,700	2.5	119,067	14.1
1969	8,453	3.1	95,097	33.5	6,138	2.2	109,688	13.2
1970	5,433	2.6	77,078	32.0	4,135	1.7	86,646	12.5
1971	3,217	2.3	63,479	30.6	3,049	1.2	69,745	11.6
1972[2]	2,483	1.5	65,522	29.8	3,082	1.1	71,087	11.0
Total fibers consumed								
1968	285,331	100.0	288,790	100.0	269,629	100.0	843,750	100.0
1969	273,418	100.0	284,102	100.0	275,818	100.0	833,338	100.0
1970	208,876	100.0	240,971	100.0	241,144	100.0	690,991	100.0
1971	137,728	100.0	207,466	100.0	254,823	100.0	600,017	100.0
1972[2]	166,554	100.0	219,297	100.0	263,433	100.0	649,284	100.0

[1] Includes noils, reprocessed and reused wool, mohair, alpaca, vicuna, and other specialty hair fibers as well as cotton, jute, and other vegetable fibers. [2] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 16.—Average weekly rate of consumption on woolen and worsted systems, scoured basis, for raw wool, United States, unadjusted and adjusted for seasonal variation

Month	1971		1972		1971		1972		1971		1972	
	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
	Raw wool				Apparel wool				Carpet wool			
January	3,850	3,726	4,281	4,115	2,543	2,495	2,379	2,324	1,307	1,231	1,902	1,791
February	3,779	3,641	4,397	4,242	2,385	2,286	2,601	2,497	1,394	1,355	1,796	1,745
March	3,943	3,833	4,454	4,332	2,602	2,484	2,927	2,796	1,341	1,349	1,527	1,536
April	3,670	3,553	4,471	4,311	2,337	2,198	2,950	2,765	1,333	1,355	1,521	1,546
May	3,748	3,564	4,715	4,474	2,418	2,230	3,141	2,897	1,330	1,334	1,574	1,577
June	3,847	3,679	4,564	4,346	2,411	2,228	3,095	2,862	1,436	1,451	1,469	1,484
July	3,020	3,575	3,303	3,870	1,824	2,048	2,254	2,530	1,196	1,527	1,049	1,340
August	3,650	3,495	4,601	4,401	2,012	1,926	3,139	3,001	1,638	1,569	1,462	1,400
September	3,644	3,705	4,167	4,265	2,145	2,266	2,715	2,871	1,499	1,439	1,452	1,394
October	3,946	3,855	4,236	4,194	2,206	2,299	2,737	2,853	1,740	1,556	1,499	1,341
November	3,528	3,632	3,798	3,946	1,925	2,057	2,507	2,678	1,603	1,575	1,291	1,268
December	3,504	3,891	3,578	4,002	1,984	2,265	2,472	2,819	1,520	1,626	1,106	1,183
	Man-made fibers				Other fibers				Total fibers			
January	7,136	7,108	6,886	6,859	1,469	1,453	1,450	1,434	12,455	12,287	12,617	12,408
February	6,199	6,187	6,442	6,429	1,503	1,389	1,502	1,388	11,481	11,217	12,341	12,059
March	6,566	6,241	6,550	6,226	1,473	1,362	1,486	1,365	11,982	11,426	12,490	11,923
April	6,580	6,547	6,829	6,795	1,388	1,314	1,433	1,278	11,638	11,414	12,733	12,384
May	7,002	6,871	7,038	6,907	1,450	1,332	1,428	1,313	12,200	11,767	13,181	12,694
June	6,725	6,454	6,926	6,647	1,449	1,400	1,358	1,312	12,021	11,533	12,848	12,305
July	5,319	6,408	5,698	6,865	976	1,169	1,079	1,292	9,315	11,152	10,080	12,027
August	6,838	6,451	7,333	6,919	1,314	1,296	1,398	1,379	11,802	11,242	13,332	12,699
September	6,513	6,323	6,829	6,630	1,325	1,423	1,247	1,339	11,482	11,451	12,243	12,234
October	7,259	6,746	7,845	7,291	1,305	1,358	1,400	1,457	12,510	11,959	13,481	12,942
November	6,295	6,301	7,522	7,530	1,200	1,300	1,288	1,396	11,023	11,233	12,608	12,872
December	5,856	6,670	6,887	7,844	1,219	1,343	1,357	1,495	10,579	11,904	11,822	13,341

Table 17.—U.S. production of woolen and worsted woven goods[1]

Fabric	1971	1971			1972			Change
		Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Jan.-Sept. 1972 to Jan.-Sept. 1971
	1,000 linear yards	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*Percent*
Woolen and worsted woven fabrics (except felt)	113,290	32,577	22,651	21,056	25,643	27,680	22,861	-17.4
Apparel fabrics	108,851	31,132	21,746	20,108	24,160	26,243	21,375	-19.1
Government orders	670	29	83	492	359	(2)	(2)	---
Other than Government orders	108,181	31,103	21,663	19,616	23,801	26,243	21,375	-19.4
Men's and boys' clothing	47,507	14,211	8,019	7,067	8,985	9,359	7,975	-34.9
Less than 9 oz.	5,135	1,619	1,138	1,256	817	382	358	-59.9
Worsted	4,948	1,559	1,108	1,239	793	337	326	-60.7
Woolen	187	60	30	17	24	45	32	-40.6
9 oz. up to 13 oz.	31,816	9,474	5,240	4,060	5,613	5,556	4,382	-44.0
Worsted	21,263	6,767	2,867	2,328	3,720	3,449	2,362	-49.7
Woolen	10,553	2,707	2,373	1,732	1,893	2,107	2,020	-31.8
13 oz. up to 16 oz.	4,197	1,327	705	592	674	1,195	1,136	-16.6
Worsted	2,531	920	387	330	456	944	918	+5.3
Woolen	1,666	407	318	262	218	251	218	-51.1
16 oz. up to 20 oz.	5,069	1,468	697	902	1,573	1,919	1,798	+27.0
Worsted	439	106	95	142	124	173	172	+57.9
Woolen	4,630	1,362	602	760	1,449	1,746	1,626	+24.6
20 oz. up to 26 oz.	1,173	302	215	218	281	262	245	-17.5
26 oz. and over	117	21	24	39	27	45	56	+64.1
Women's and children's clothing	60,674	16,892	13,644	12,549	14,816	16,884	13,400	-6.3
Less than 9 oz.	3,152	685	739	887	923	843	760	+11.5
Worsted	949	212	252	207	194	152	183	-28.7
Woolen	2,203	473	487	680	729	691	577	+31.1
9 oz. up to 13 oz.	19,789	6,339	3,831	2,969	3,298	4,373	3,997	-30.6
Worsted	353	102	147	62	142	173	256	+96.2
Woolen	19,436	6,237	3,684	2,907	3,156	4,200	3,741	-32.9
13 oz. up to 16 oz.	1,772	610	376	393	671	1,283	813	+100.7
Worsted	292	36	96	118	77	202	199	+174.7
Woolen	1,480	574	280	275	594	1,081	614	+90.0
16 oz. up to 20 oz.	12,554	3,614	3,185	2,580	3,307	3,949	2,956	+2.4
Worsted	1,685	419	474	391	350	495	435	-1.1
Woolen	10,869	3,195	2,711	2,189	2,957	3,454	2,521	+2.9
20 oz. and over	23,407	5,644	5,513	5,720	6,617	6,436	4,874	+1.4
Nonapparel fabrics	4,439	1,445	905	948	1,483	1,437	1,486	+26.2
Blanketing	3,276	1,170	594	640	1,021	975	993	+13.4
Other	1,163	275	311	308	462	462	493	+65.7
				1000 pounds				
Woven felts	7,510	1,959	1,761	1,910	2,049	1,903	1,782	+2.4
Papermakers	5,775	1,509	1,353	1,460	1,478	(2)	(2)	---
All others	1,735	450	408	450	571	(2)	(2)	---

[1]Fabrics wholly or chiefly by weight of wool, reused wool, reprocessed wool or other animal fibers. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent, other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch width or equivalent 54 inch width. [2]Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 18.—Raw wool content of United States imports for consumption of wool manufactures[1]

Year and month	Tops and advanced wool	Yarns	Woven fabrics[2]	Wool blankets[3]	Wearing apparel	
					Knit	Other than knit[4]
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1963	6,457	9,992	22,266	420	17,966	10,073
1964	3,079	8,217	19,804	535	20,282	8,139
1965	8,088	11,257	25,702	744	27,617	7,826
1966	10,362	12,969	24,836	746	25,789	7,232
1967	5,795	9,684	24,319	755	24,371	6,400
1968	6,622	10,850	32,696	874	32,845	8,513
1969	4,496	8,602	29,197	1,012	30,601	10,872
1970	4,406	8,092	23,943	1,004	25,207	12,917
1971	2,752	7,665	11,720	679	21,323	9,895
1972[8]	426	6,312	8,764	706	19,973	7,486
1972[8]						
January	34	515	564	73	924	400
February	3	439	531	41	668	307
March	74	425	965	47	713	443
April	21	366	933	21	645	263
May	64	669	736	29	811	297
June	39	532	909	48	1,809	503
July	36	585	772	54	2,384	911
August	67	575	939	76	3,118	1,148
September	15	517	714	90	2,519	920
October	17	701	546	59	2,347	875
November	23	503	625	99	2,271	902
December	33	485	530	69	1,764	517

Year and month	Other manufactures[5]	Subtotal	Noils	Wastes[6]	Carpets and rugs	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1963	5,364	72,538	41,729	16,263	22,019	152,549
1964	1,201	61,257	38,075	14,420	27,395	141,147
1965	1,752	82,986	34,291	17,402	22,010	156,689
1966	1,669	83,603	27,647	16,229	16,793	144,272
1967	2,438	73,762	28,912	10,895	9,865	123,434
1968	2,549	94,949	27,011	14,669	9,338	145,967
1969	2,235	87,015	22,881	10,633	9,141	129,670
1970	2,563	78,132	20,026	10,619	7,783	116,560
1971	3,039	57,073	15,489	7,987	9,156	89,705
1972[8]	3,273	46,940	21,773	10,589	12,292	91,594
1972[8]						
January	209	2,719	2,313	603	1,206	6,841
February	219	2,208	2,033	1,118	891	6,250
March	297	2,964	1,936	777	924	6,601
April	244	2,493	1,411	1,060	775	5,739
May	326	2,932	1,436	990	1,100	6,458
June	405	4,245	1,997	1,159	1,026	8,427
July	386	5,128	1,880	788	954	8,750
August	391	6,314	1,707	899	974	9,894
September	271	5,046	1,715	660	870	8,291
October	286	4,831	1,535	788	1,112	8,266
November	177	4,600	2,464	1,042	1,379	9,485
December	62	3,460	1,346	705	1,081	6,592

See footnotes end of table 19.

Table 19.—Raw wool content of United States exports of domestic wool manufactures[1]

Year and month	Tops and advanced wool	Yarns	Fabrics woven and knit	Wool blankets	Wearing apparel	
					Knit	Other than knit
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1963	873	229	701	89	145	266
1964	370	228	748	239	201	390
1965	433	185	804	213	349	512
1966	458	273	586	183	348	600
1967	527	331	550	211	535	503
1968	461	367	496	207	472	573
1969	538	594	395	188	303	716
1970	804	297	403	164	305	688
1971	5,109	305	469	157	306	649
1972[8]	25,512	563	600	87	431	916
1972[2]						
January	2,455	12	25	13	30	29
February	1,485	3	37	16	20	46
March	2,611	11	28	10	24	45
April	2,162	69	30	3	39	72
May	1,931	55	39	6	26	78
June	2,702	38	42	3	29	77
July	2,931	39	55	7	15	62
August	2,351	51	36	5	23	98
September	2,151	83	40	5	60	92
October	1,569	49	80	5	72	114
November	2,072	72	78	7	44	125
December	1,092	81	110	7	49	78

Year and month	Other manufactures[7]	Felts	Subtotal	Noils and wastes[6]	Carpets and rugs	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1963	580	198	3,081	2,038	470	5,589
1964	893	276	3,345	3,281	372	6,998
1965	1,135	1,227	4,858	7,190	614	12,662
1966	876	1,023	4,347	5,184	588	10,119
1967	748	1,434	4,839	3,293	509	8,641
1968	961	1,349	4,886	3,635	818	9,339
1969	921	548	4,203	3,686	1,004	8,893
1970	769	650	4,080	2,484	860	7,424
1971	798	432	8,225	2,616	1,205	12,046
1972[8]	910	456	29,475	2,755	1,066	33,296
1972[8]						
January	84	34	2,682	145	67	2,894
February	81	19	1,707	200	76	1,983
March	125	23	2,877	266	92	3,235
April	53	39	2,467	203	69	2,739
May	84	70	2,289	207	111	2,607
June	69	15	2,975	426	76	3,477
July	66	39	3,214	150	70	3,434
August	61	52	2,677	98	61	2,836
September	67	40	2,538	137	67	2,742
October	106	23	2,018	214	123	2,355
November	54	52	2,504	458	158	3,120
December	60	50	1,527	251	96	1,874

[1] Includes manufactures of mohair, alpaca, and other wool-like specialty hair. [2] Includes pile fabric and manufactures, tapestry and upholstery goods, press and billiard cloths. [3] Includes carriage and automobile robes, steamer rugs, etc. [4] Includes laces, lace articles, veils and veilings, nets and nettings, when reported in pounds. [5] Includes knit fabrics in the piece and miscellaneous manufactures not elsewhere specified. [6] Not including rags. [7] Census Bureau's Schedule B classification designated manufactures, n.e.c. [8] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 20.—Production of wool and hair tops, worsted and woolen yarn, and wool woven fabrics, selected countries

Country	Year		1971				1972			Change	
	1970	1971	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	July-Sept. 1972 to July-Sept. 1971	Jan.-Sept. 1972 to Jan.-Sept. 1971
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Percent*	*Percent*
						Tops					
United Kingdom	175.7	145.9	39.0	37.7	33.1	36.4	41.0	42.8	39.7	+19.9	+12.5
France	224.7	243.2	63.7	63.1	50.9	65.5	69.9	68.3	48.1	-5.5	+4.8
Japan	329.4	306.2	73.0	76.7	78.3	78.0	76.9	81.8	80.5	+2.8	+4.9
Italy	145.3	119.3	31.1	30.4	25.1	33.1	35.5	35.7	30.9	+23.1	+17.9
United States	106.5	72.3	20.1	19.8	16.5	15.9	19.8	24.0	21.6	+30.9	+16.0
West Germany	94.4	108.9	25.6	26.0	27.1	30.2	30.6	30.4	32.0	+18.1	+18.2
Belgium	54.7	37.5	10.4	9.7	8.2	9.3	9.7	9.3	7.1	-13.4	-7.8
Australia	40.8	29.8	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.1	7.5	8.8	---	---	---
Uruguay	32.8	31.3	10.1	8.8	3.5	8.4	7.3	7.9	5.5	+57.1	-7.6
Netherlands	.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total	1,204.4	1,094.6	280.6	279.8	250.0	283.7	298.3	309.3	[1] 265.4	[1] +9.4	[1] +8.8
						Worsted yarn					
United Kingdom	202.6	195.1	50.0	49.2	44.1	52.0	51.4	51.8	48.5	+10.0	+5.9
Italy	236.1	240.7	56.7	62.4	53.4	68.3	73.6	72.3	61.7	+15.5	+20.4
France	224.7	239.6	63.7	63.9	46.1	65.9	66.4	65.9	45.9	-.4	+2.6
West Germany	187.0	202.6	50.3	50.3	46.1	56.0	57.8	56.9	58.4	+26.7	+18.0
Japan	291.2	292.8	67.2	73.0	75.2	77.2	75.6	81.1	81.8	+8.8	+10.7
Belgium	125.9	138.9	35.7	35.9	29.5	37.7	36.8	33.5	25.1	-14.9	-5.6
Netherlands	19.0	20.3	5.3	5.3	4.2	5.7	5.3	4.9	4.0	-4.8	-4.1
Australia	19.8	19.4	4.4	4.6	5.1	5.3	4.2	5.3	---	---	---
Total	1,306.3	1,349.4	333.5	344.6	303.7	368.1	371.1	371.7	[1] 325.4	[1] +9.0	[1] +9.4
						Woolen Yarn					
United Kingdom	297.4	300.5	81.6	80.0	62.6	76.5	74.1	78.0	68.6	+10.0	-1.6
Italy	305.6	302.3	75.4	79.8	67.0	80.2	84.2	81.8	70.5	+5.2	+6.4
France	90.6	95.0	24.9	26.5	18.5	25.1	26.2	27.1	18.5	---	+2.7
West Germany	107.1	104.5	26.9	27.8	23.1	26.9	26.2	26.5	27.6	+19.5	+3.2
Japan	109.1	102.5	25.4	27.1	25.6	24.3	25.4	28.0	26.7	+4.3	+2.6
Belgium	53.1	60.0	14.3	15.2	13.7	16.8	17.2	17.9	20.7	+51.1	+29.2
Netherlands	28.0	28.0	6.8	7.3	6.2	7.7	7.5	7.7	7.1	+14.5	+9.9
Australia	41.2	42.3	9.5	10.8	10.8	11.0	8.6	11.5	---	---	---
Total	1,032.1	1,035.1	264.8	274.4	227.5	268.5	269.4	278.5	[1] 239.7	[1] +10.6	[1] +4.3
						Woven fabrics					
	Million square yards	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*		
United States	291.9	183.6	59.9	52.9	36.7	34.6	41.6	44.0	40.8	+11.1	-15.5
United Kingdom	277.1	245.8	63.7	62.3	57.6	62.1	58.0	59.3	59.6	+3.5	-3.7
Japan	509.1	507.0	116.7	126.2	131.6	132.4	155.2	166.0	165.4	+25.7	+29.9
France	180.0	203.4	50.2	54.7	40.9	57.6	57.6	59.6	47.0	+14.9	+12.6
West Germany	147.3	153.9	37.1	38.7	35.4	36.1	39.6	42.8	47.1	+33.1	+16.5
Netherlands	48.1	51.5	12.4	13.3	11.8	12.6	8.1	11.7	10.6	-10.2	-18.9
Australia	32.1	26.2	6.9	6.3	6.0	7.1	5.9	6.9	---	---	---
Total	1,485.7	1,371.3	347.0	354.5	319.9	342.5	366.2	390.4	[1] 370.5	[1] +18.0	[1] +11.2
Belgium (Mil. lb.)	32.4	32.6	8.2	8.6	7.5	8.6	8.2	8.2	6.8	-9.4	-4.5
Italy (Mil. lb.)	255.5	249.1	63.9	66.4	54.9	63.9	69.0	68.1	57.3	+4.4	+5.0

[1] Total excludes Australia.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
AGR 101
FIRST CLASS

U.S.MAIL

NOTICE: If you don't want future issues of this ERS publication, check here ☐ and mail this sheet to the address below.

If your address should be changed, write your new address on this sheet and mail it to:

Automated Mailing List Section
Office of Plant and Operations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

TWS-102 FEBRUARY 1973